

# The New York Times *POLL*

## New York City

**Aug. 10-15, 2012**

**Total N = 1,026**

Results are based on the total city-wide sample unless otherwise noted.  
An asterisk indicates registered respondents.

Trends are based on Times polls except Oct. 1998 - Oct. 2000, Aug. 2006 and Aug. 2011 are Times/CBS News polls.

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Michael Bloomberg is handling his job as Mayor?

	Approve	Disapprove	DK/NA
6/4-9/02	48	26	26
8/25-29/02	47	31	22
10/12-16/02	47	41	12
1/11-15/03	31	53	16
6/6-11/03	24	65	11
7/13-27/03	25	67	8
8/31-9/4/03	32	57	11
4/16-21/04	38	46	16
8/20-25/04	40	49	11
2/4-13/05	43	45	12
6/21-26/05	50	35	15
8/22-28/05	59	31	11
10/21-26/05	67	23	10
8/23-27/06	63	22	15
6/6-11/08	67	28	5
5/29-6/3/09	60	34	6
8/27-31/10	59	29	12
10/26-28/10	54	30	16
8/9-15/11	45	43	13
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>13</b>

2. What do you think is the most important problem facing New York CITY today?

	8/27-31/10	<b>8/10-15/12</b>
Jobs and Unemployment	29	<b>19</b>
Economy	16	<b>11</b>
Education	8	<b>10</b>
Crime/violence	6	<b>15</b>
Transportation (not subway)	5	
Subway	4	
Housing/cost of housing	4	<b>6</b>
Budget Deficit/Budget cuts	3	<b>1</b>
Taxes/IRS	3	<b>2</b>
Mosque/Islamic Community Ctr	3	
Poverty/Homelessness	2	<b>3</b>
Police problems	2	<b>1</b>
Illegal Immigration	1	<b>1</b>
Racism/Race relations	1	<b>1</b>
Intolerance	1	
Health Care	1	<b>2</b>
Drugs	1	-
Quality of Life Issues	1	
Terrorism	1	-
Public works (roads)		<b>2</b>
Guns		<b>6</b>
Mayor Bloomberg		<b>2</b>
Income gap		<b>1</b>
Making ends meet		<b>2</b>
Traffic		<b>3</b>
Other	3	<b>7</b>
DK/NA	5	<b>5</b>

3. Since Michael Bloomberg became Mayor, do you think the overall quality of life in New York City has gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed about the same?

	Better	Worse	Same	DK/NA
2/4-13/05*	23	23	53	2
6/21-26/05*	27	16	54	3
5/29-6/3/09	37	17	42	4
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>5</b>

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Michael Bloomberg is handling crime in New York City?

	Approve	Disapprove	DK/NA
6/4-9/02	50	20	29
1/11-15/03	50	34	15
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>12</b>

5. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Michael Bloomberg is handling race relations in New York City?

	Approve	Disapprove	DK/NA
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>16</b>

6. The city's term-limits laws restrict city officials, including the mayor and members of the city council to eight years in office. Some people say term limits are a GOOD idea that keeps public officials from staying in office too long and losing touch with the concerns of average voters. Others say term limits are a BAD idea that put inexperienced people in office and prevent voters from re-electing capable legislators. What do you think? Are term limits a good idea, or a bad idea?

	Good idea	Bad idea	DK/NA
4/16-21/04 <sup>1</sup>	63	30	7
6/6-11/08 <sup>2</sup>	67	27	6
5/29-6/3/09 <sup>3</sup>	72	22	6
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5</b>

1 Question read: The city's term-limits laws, which went into effect three years ago . . .

2 Question read: The city's term-limits laws, which went into effect seven years ago . . .

3 Question read: The city's term-limits laws, which went into effect eight years ago . . .

8. Which of the following comes closer to your view? 1. I'm glad that Michael Bloomberg was able to get the term limits law amended, allowing him to run for a third term as mayor, OR 2. The term limits law should not have been amended in 2008 allowing Michael Bloomberg to run for a third term.

	Glad term limit amended	Should not have been amended	DK/NA
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>3</b>

9. As you may know, Michael Bloomberg's term as Mayor of New York City is up next year and the term limits law prevents him from running for a fourth term. If Michael Bloomberg were able to run again for mayor, would you vote for him, or not?

	Vote for Bloomberg	Not vote for him	Depends	DK/NA
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>

10. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Raymond Kelly is handling his job as police commissioner?

	Approve	Disapprove	DK/NA
8/20-25/04	59	18	23
6/6-11/08	56	26	19
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>15</b>

11. Looking ahead about four years, if it were entirely up to you, would you want to be living where you are now, or would you want to be living somewhere else in New York City, or outside the city?

	Living where now	Elsewhere in NYC	Outside NYC	DK/NA
4/27-5/3/85	44	15	40	1
8/5-12/01	42	21	35	3
10/6-9/01	55	12	31	2
6/4-9/02	47	16	34	3
8/25-29/02	40	17	42	1
1/11-15/03	38	17	42	3
6/6-11/03	42	13	42	3
8/31-9/4/03	40	11	47	3
4/16-21/04	43	14	41	2
8/20-25/04	40	12	47	2
2/4-13/05	41	16	41	2
6/21-26/05	47	14	38	2
8/22-28/05	46	14	38	1
8/23-27/06	42	15	41	2
8/9-15/11	43	15	41	1
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>3</b>

Looking ahead about four years, if it was entirely up to you, would you want to be living in New York City, or would you want to be living somewhere else?

	In NYC	Somewhere else	DK/NA
12/7-14/81	48	48	4
1/5-10/85	54	42	4
6/17-20/90	38	59	3
11/2-12/91	37	60	3
3/1-6/97	49	47	4
8/5-12/01	62	35	3
10/6-9/01	67	31	2
6/4-9/02	63	16	3
8/25-29/02	57	43	1
1/11-15/03	55	42	3
6/6-11/03	55	42	3
8/31-9/4/03	51	47	3
4/16-21/04	57	41	2
8/20-25/04	52	47	2
2/4-13/05	57	41	2
6/21-26/05	60	38	2
8/22-28/05	60	38	1
8/23-27/06	57	41	2
8/9-15/11	58	41	1
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>3</b>

12. How would you rate the condition of the New York City economy these days? Is it very good, fairly good, fairly bad, or very bad?

	Very good	Fairly good	Fairly bad	Very bad	DK/NA
9/29-10/3/93	2	30	40	25	3
3/1-6/97	6	53	25	12	4
8/5-12/01*	12	66	13	5	4
10/6-9/01*	5	55	27	8	5
10/27-11/1/01*	4	54	30	9	2
6/4-9/02	4	46	34	12	4
1/11-15/03	2	28	42	24	3
6/4-11/03	2	22	43	30	3
4/16-21/04	2	43	33	19	3
8/20-25/04	3	44	32	19	2
2/4-13/05	3	51	27	17	2
6/21-26/05	4	51	28	14	2
8/22-28/05	4	55	25	13	4
5/29-6/3/09	2	34	38	25	1
8/9-15/11	2	27	39	29	2
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2</b>

13. In general, do you think New York City's economy is better, worse, or about the same as it was five years ago?

	Better	Worse	Same	DK/NA
11/2-12/91	4	86	9	2
3/1-6/97	38	27	28	6
8/5-12/01*	21	25	51	3
10/6-9/01*	21	35	38	5
10/27-11/1/01*	18	39	39	5
6/4-9/02	23	31	42	4
1/11-15/03	11	50	36	4
6/4-11/03	11	52	35	3
4/16-21/04	28	31	37	4
8/20-25/04	20	36	41	2
2/4-13/05	26	31	41	2
6/21-26/05	27	29	42	2
8/22-28/05	28	28	43	2
8/9-15/11	10	46	42	1
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>3</b>

16. Do you think law enforcement officers are more likely to stop people of certain racial or ethnic groups or do they stop members of all racial and ethnic groups pretty equally?

	Stop some more	Stop all equally	DK/NA
6/4-9/02	57	34	9
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>10</b>

17. How much have you heard or read about stop and frisk, the police procedure where a police officer detains and searches an individual to determine if the person is carrying a concealed weapon -- a lot, some, not much or nothing at all?

	A lot	Some	Not much	Nothing at all	DK/NA
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>

18. Do you think the Stop and Frisk tactic has decreased illegal guns in New York City or has it had no effect?

	Decreased	No effect	Increased	DK/NA
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>

19. Do you think the Stop and Frisk tactic has decreased violent crime in New York City or has it had no effect?

	Decreased	No effect	Increased	DK/NA
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>

20. Last year more than 800,000 New Yorkers were stopped by the police and questioned under this policy. Some people say this is excessive and innocent people are being harassed. Other people say this is acceptable to make New York City safer. What is your view -- is the use of stop and frisk in New York City excessive or acceptable?

	Excessive	Acceptable	DK/NA
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>7</b>

21. Do you think the police in New York City generally treat both whites and blacks fairly, or do they favor one race over the other?  
Q. 22/21 WERE ROTATED WITH Q. 23/24

	Treat both fairly	Favor one race	DK/NA
1/10-12/88	36	47	17
6/21-25/88 <sup>1</sup>	44	38	18
5/10-14/93	30	54	15
10/13-18/97*	26	62	11
10/10-6/98	28	61	10
3/8-14/99	22	64	14
4/1-5/00	19	66	15
8/5-12/01*	24	62	14
6/4-9/02	33	52	14
1/11-15/03	37	49	15
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>9</b>

<sup>1</sup> In 6/88, the word "City" was omitted.

22. IF FAVOR ONE RACE, ASK: Do they favor whites or blacks?

	Whites	Blacks	DK/NA
1/19-12/88	44	1	2
6/21-25/88	34	1	3
5/10-14/93	48	2	5
10/13-18/97*	57	1	4
10/1-6/98	54	2	6
3/8-14/99	60	1	3
4/1-5/00	63		4
8/5-12/01*	57	1	4
6/4-9/02	48	1	4
1/11-15/03	45	1	3
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>

23. Do you think the police in New York City generally treat both whites and Hispanics fairly, or do they favor one ethnic group over the other?  
Q. 23/24 WERE ROTATED WITH Q. 21/22

	Treat both fairly	Favor one group	DK/NA
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>11</b>

24. IF FAVOR ONE GROUP, ASK: Do they favor whites or Hispanics?

	Whites	Hispanics	DK/NA
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

25. Some people say the police don't show respect for people, or they use insulting language. Has this ever happened to you, or not?

	Yes	No	DK/NA
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>-</b>

26. Have you ever felt you were stopped by the police just because of your race or ethnic background, or not?

	Yes	No	DK/NA
4/1-5/00	29	71	1
10/6-9/01	20	80	-
6/4-9/02	18	81	1
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>79</b>	-

42. Is your opinion of Anthony Weiner favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Anthony Weiner yet to have an opinion?

	Not Favorable	Undecided	Haven't heard enough	Refused
4/16-21/04	7	4	14	73
2/4-13/05*	9	4	16	69
6/21-26/05*	9	8	19	63
8/22-28/05*	11	10	23	54
6/6-11/08	18	8	18	54
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>36</b>
				<b>4</b>

43. Anthony Weiner resigned from Congress after sending sexually suggestive photos of himself to women online. He is said to be considering a return to public life and political office. Do you think that would be a good idea or a bad idea?

	Good idea	Bad idea	DK/NA
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>13</b>

54. How long have you lived in New York City?

	Less than one year	1-10 years	11-20 years	21-30 years	31-40 years	Over 40 years	DK/NA
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>29</b>	-

57. In the last year, have you or any member of your immediate family been the victim of a crime in New York City?

	Yes	No	DK/NA
1/5-10/85	28	72	-
4/27-5/3/85	27	73	-
6/11-17/89*	26	73	1
6/17-20/90	27	73	1
11/2-12/91	26	73	1
5/10-14/93	27	73	-
9/29-10/3/93	26	74	-
6/12-15/94	23	77	-
3/1-6/97	17	83	1
10/13-18/97	17	83	-
3/8-14/99	15	85	-
8/5-12/01	10	89	-
10/12-16/02	14	86	1
1/11-15/03	12	87	1
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>87</b>	-

Did you vote in the election for Mayor in 2009, did something prevent you from voting, or did you choose not to vote in the election for Mayor in 2009?  
 IF VOTED, ASK: Did you vote for Bill Thompson or Michael Bloomberg?

	Thompson	Bloomberg	Voted, won't say for whom	Didn't vote	Didn't live in NYC then	DK/NA
8/10-15/12	15	27	3	48	4	4

Some people are registered to vote and others are not. Are you registered to vote in the election district where you now live, or aren't you?

Yes	No	DK/NA	
8/10-15/12	78	21	2

In what borough do you NOW live?

	Bronx	Brooklyn	Manhattan	Queens	Staten Island
8/10-15/12	16	28	19	29	8

What is your religious preference today?

	Protestant	Catholic	Jewish	Muslim	Other	None	DK/NA
8/10-15/12	25	34	11	2	8	17	4

Are you now married, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Separated	Never married	DK/NA
8/10-15/12	42	7	9	3	39	1

Generally speaking, do you usually consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or what?

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	DK/NA
8/10-15/12	14	56	18	11

How would you describe your views on most political matters? Generally do you think of yourself as liberal, moderate, or conservative?

	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	DK/NA
8/10-15/12	32	32	24	12

What was the last grade in school you completed?

	Not a H.S. grad	H.S. grad	Some college	College grad	Post grad	Refused
8/10-15/12	9	37	24	15	14	1

How old are you?

18-29	30-44	45-64	Over 64	Refused
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8/10-15/12	22	31	31	16	1
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Are you of Hispanic origin or descent, or not?

	Hispanic	Not Hispanic	Interviewed in Spanish	DK/NA
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>

Are you white, black, or some other race?

	White	Black	Asian	Other	Refused
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>

Was your total family income, that is your household income before taxes, in 2010 UNDER or OVER \$50,000?? IF UNDER, ASK: Was it under \$15,000, or between \$15,000 and \$30,000, or over \$30,000? IF OVER, ASK: Was it between \$50,000 and \$75,000, or between \$75,000 and \$100,000 or was it over \$100,000?

	Under \$15,000	\$15,000-\$30,000	\$30,000-\$50,000	\$50,000-\$75,000	\$75,000- \$100,000	Over \$100,000	Refused
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>

Gender

	Male	Female
<b>8/10-15/12</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>53</b>